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A SUCCESSFUL ARTIST

ART is a jealous master and whoever receives its rewards or enjoys its triumphs does so only at the price of service, willingly and conscientiously given, with a great sacrifice accounts for the fact that "there is always room at the top." Even the most industrious rarely use all their spare time to advantage, and thus it is that the success of the few who have no waste moments, come as such a surprise to the world at large. Especially do we rejoice at the success of a young artist, the early arrival at a prominence which is more generally attained only during the years of maturity.

Among Chicago musicians the career of Miss Viola Cole exemplifies the possibilities of unremitting application to one's art as a means for early achievement of high honor. To be recognized among artist educators with reputation, both in this country and in Europe, and be received as one of the most successful concert pianists; while still in the twenties, is not a usual achievement, even among the most gifted of women. It represents not only the advantage of ability from the start, but a will power, capable of an absolute sacrifice of lesser interests; and a mind which can arrange an economy of time, things that are in themselves scarcely less difficult to achieve than is a mastery of technique.

There are many advantages to young people in pursuing this course, especially to young women to whom an early arrival means a great deal, inasmuch as we can never quite be satisfied with the artist along in a woman. The woman who arrives at prominence in concert work while still in the bloom of her beauty and youth may

thus be seen to have secured an immeasurable advantage.

Miss Cole is a Chicago girl, self-educated and self-reliant, typifying the spirit of her country and her time. As a teacher she has won repute through the thoroughness and individuality of her method of instruction. One of its unique features lies in an unusual recognition of the breadth of art and the relation of music and musical expression to all of its other branches.

Miss Cole encourages her pupils to consider paintings, sculpture, literature, and the drama; beauty and life in all their forms of expression as a means toward the appreciation of the greater harmonies of art, and a better understanding and interpretation of the best music. Character building, too, she regards as a necessity to the would-be artist, the acquirement of a general moral courage and self-reliance from which the patience and perseverance essential to a master of music must spring.

As an artist she is characterized by her delicacy of perception and brilliancy of execution combined with an unusual sympathy and a faultless technique. Her tours in this country and Canada (where she has been invited to play before the Governor-General) are a continuous series of triumphs, and her recitals and concerts in Chicago are a feature of the winter musical season.

When pressed for the secret of her success Miss Cole assures one that "it is an open secret, free to all: the simple formula of work, hard work and then more intelligent work." A simple formula indeed, but hard enough to fill, and one which may yet be always relied upon.



VIOLA COLE, Pianist